1. Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation—Will the proposed project assist the producer to:
1a. Convert land from irrigated farming to dryland farming?
Answer as is.
1b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and result in estimated water savings of at least five percent and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?
Answer "yes" if the application includes an irrigation system being improved with an estimated net water savings of at least five percent AND any of the following conservation practices are included in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Conservation Plan of Operations (CPO): 328, 329, 345, 346, 430, 441, 442, 449, 512, or 550.
1c. Increase groundwater recharge in identified groundwater depletion areas (http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html)?
Answer "yes" if the unit of concern is located within a Kansas Water Plan Priority Groundwater Decline Area (see Conservation Programs Geographic Information System [GIS] Interface [CPGI]).
1d. Implement irrigation water management (IWM-449)?
Answer as is.
1e. Conserve water in a project located within an approved Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP) priority area?
Answer "yes."
1f. Reduce water use consistent with state law or where the applicant agrees not to use any associated water savings to bring new land under irrigation production?
Answer "yes" if water use will no longer exceed water right for offered area AND water use reports will be turned in on time to appropriate agency AND associated water savings will not be used to bring new land under irrigation production.
1g. Mitigate the effects of drought in a project located within a designated AWEP exceptional drought (D-4) area? N/A in Kansas.
Only two counties in Kansas experienced exceptional drought conditions (D-4) between June 18, 2006, and June 18, 2008, Barber and Harper. These two counties are not located in a designated Groundwater Management District (GMD) http://www.ksda.gov/appropriation/content/295. As per AWEP Notice of Request for Proposals (RFP) published January 14, 2009): http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/awep/pdf_files/AWEP-D4-Criteria_3-2-09.pdf Exceptional drought conditions are reported by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA): http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html.
Answer "no."
2. Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality—Will the proposed project assist the producer to:
2a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?
Answer "yes" if the animal feeding operation is located in a high priority Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) watershed for fecal coliform bacteria (see CPGI).
2b. Reduce sediment, nutrients, or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body?
Answer "yes" if the unit of concern is located in a high priority TMDL watershed for eutrophication, dissolved oxygen, nutrients, and/or pesticides (see CPGI).

2c. Reduce sediment, nutrients, or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a water body?
Answer “yes” if the unit of concern is located adjacent to a water body (lake, pond, or perennial stream as determined by the 1:24,000 scale hydrography layer).
2d. Reduce depletion or sources of pollution to groundwater?
Answer “yes” if the EQIP CPO includes at least two of the following practices by GMD: GMD No. 2–430, 441, 442, or 449. GMD No. 3–328, 329, 340, 345, 346, 351, 449, 511, 512, 528, 550, 590, or 595. GMD No. 4–328, 329, 345, 346, 351, 590, or 595. GMD No. 5–328, 329, 345, 346, 511, 512, 528, 550, 590, or 595.
3. High Quality, Productive Soils Erosion Reduction–Will the proposed project assist the producer to:
3a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil—T)?
Use RUSLE2, WEPS, and gully erosion calculations to determine erosion rates by field.
4. Business Lines—Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations—Will the proposed project:
4a. Result in implementation of all planned conservation practices within three years of obligation?
Answer “yes” if the planned practices in the EQIP CPO are scheduled to be completed within three years of the obligation date.
4b. Leverage financial resources from an AWEP partner to implement conservation practices.
Answer “yes” if the participant is receiving funds from partner.
4c. Improve existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted, or will complete an existing conservation system?
Answer “yes” to the question.
4d. Fund a “joint application” from multiple producers which address priorities of an approved AWEP project area?
Answer “yes” if two or more eligible applicants on two or more operations, intending to substantially pool resources, efforts, finances, or other contributions to mutually address the same resource concerns, may organize as a group, following the Conservation Programs Manual (CPM), Part 512, Section 512.41.